

INFORMATION REPORT CD NO

COUNTRY Korea

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SUBJECT Recruitment and Training of North Korean Troops

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25X1 1. On 24 October 1951 the military drill center at the former Che Il Middle
25X1 School building, Pilsokko-ri (125-52, 39-17) (YD-4752), which was attached
to and directed by the 17 Division, 1 Army Group, completed the training
of 320 recruits as squad leaders to be assigned to the 17 Division reserve.
Twenty instructors supervised the drill program of "36-ke" training,¹
lectures on political science and sociology, close combat tactics, and
physical exercise. Upon completing the center's first training period from
17 August to 16 September, forty sergeants were assigned as platoon leaders
to companies in the 17 Division. These men wore one small star.² Approxi-
mately three hundred men, most of whom were veterans, were trained from 17
September to 4 October and sent to the 17 Division as squad leaders with the
rank of sergeant. The third drill period, for the 320 squad leaders, began
on 5 October.

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2. In March 1951 the Jongnok-kun association was organized at Pongnam-ni (126-09,
37-54) (3: 4798). Kim Jongnam (김종남) (YD-4798), a major in the
25X1 North Korean army, was director of the association. Prior to and after the
North Korean retreat in September 1950, the association trained recruits through
the device of youth group members. In October 1951 instructors from the North
Korean army were being assigned to the training posts. Civilian, grass-roofed
houses at Pongnam-ni provided offices for the director, eight staff employees,
and two instructors. Arms at the office included one pistol, one APSh sub-
machine gun, one Japanese 81 rifle, and wooden training rifles. A single tele-
phone had been installed in the office.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

- 25X1 3. In August 1951 the chairman of the P'yongwon-kun military committee was Kim
25X1 In-kon (~~Kim In-kon~~), [] captain in the North Korean army. The
assistant chairmen were Second Lieutenant PAK (~~Kim PAK~~) (inn), []
and Warrant Officer KIM Chin-t'ae (~~Kim Chin-t'ae~~). All these officers were members
of the North Korean labor party. Five other persons were also on the committee's
staff. In the North Korean army's third mobilization effort in April 1951 this
committee was to conscript men between the ages of 18 and 30, according to a
quota system established for each myon and ri. Each ri committee was responsible
for adhering to the established quota. Two hundred men, considerably less than
the quota, were enrolled; more than one-half of these men were outside the
prescribed age limit. Each ri provided only two or three recruits because
those who were eligible for conscription succeeded in hiding themselves. The
recruits joined unit number 48 in Changsan-ni (125-37, 39-07) (YD 2635). In
mid-August this unit joined the 2 Battalion, 23 Regiment, 17 Division, at
Anuk-ryon (125-25, 39-27) (YD 1962).
4. In early August 1951 four hundred officers were being trained at the Pol-li
(~~Pol-li~~) farm, a former school building at Pongwang-dae (124-32, 39-51)
(XG 3117).
5. In August 1951 the mobilization office of North P'yongan province and Chakang
province was in the theater at Pongwon (125-45, 39-47) (YD 4311) under the
supervision of the 587 Corps.
6. In May 1951 men between the ages of 20 and 27, who had been sent to the USSR
in 1945 for four years of compulsory labor, were mustered into the North Korean
army and trained at Fengt'ien (123-26, 41-47) and Yulin'p'u (122-17, 40-20)
in Manchuria, during the first half of September. Approximately three divisions,
including artillery, infantry, and cavalry forces, were instructed by Korean
graduates of Soviet military academies. Two independent corps were being
organized with Korean youths living in Manchuria and North Korean army strag-
glers en route to Manchuria. The two corps were to support the forces being
trained in Manchuria.
7. In October 1951 the North Korean government, with the cooperation of the
Chinese Communist Military Committee, began recruiting Korean residents of
Manchuria for military duty in North Korea. Parties of five North Korean
officers and seven enlisted men each have been sent to various areas of
Manchuria to recruit men between the ages of 17 and 40. Although termed
"recruiting," enlistment of the men was actually compulsory. Men so re-
cruited were being sent to Kirin (126-32, 43-51), Manchuria, for approximately
two months of military training. Some of these trainees arrived in Sinuiju
in early December 1951 and were distributed to front-line units in battalion-
size groups. These troops were not integrated fully into the regular North
Korean army but instead were termed the "Korean Volunteer Independence Troops."
25X1 By early December about 50,000 (sic) men had been so recruited in Chientao
and Antung prefectures.
- 25X1 1. [] Comment. Presumably the reference is to 36 basic combat maneuvers.
- 25X1 2. [] Comment. The small star is the insignia of a second lieutenant of the
North Korean army.

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